

Tracking Influenza in Idaho

2018-2019 Influenza Season

Current Week Summary	Outpatient Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)	Emergency Department ILI	Influenza Type and Subtype	Influenza-related Mortality	Surveillance Data Sources and Limitations	ISSP Technical Notes
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Current Week Summary*

Influenza Geographic Spread in Idaho

Sporadic

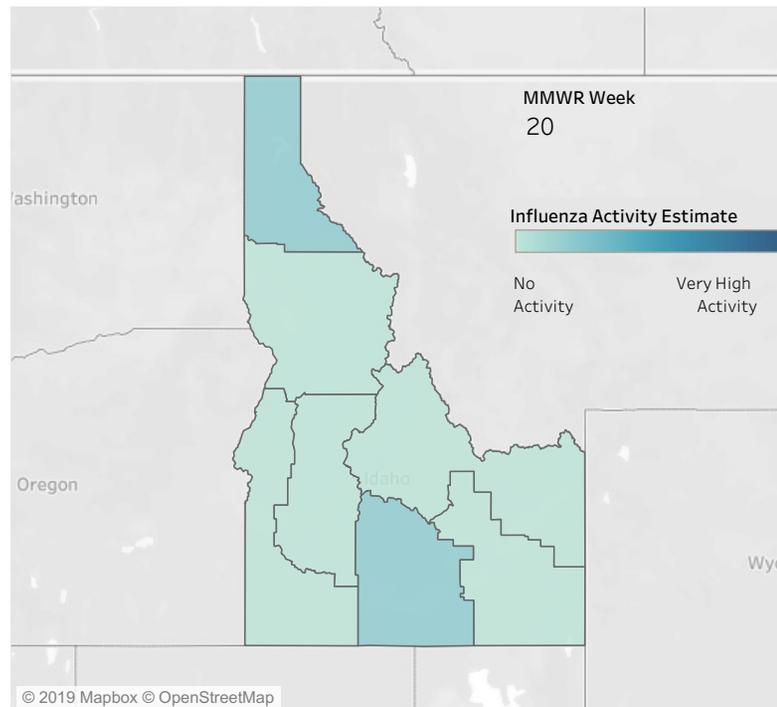
Percent Outpatient Visits for Influenza-like Illness (ILI)	0.28%
Percent Emergency Department Visits for ILI	1.99%
Number of New Influenza-related Deaths This Week	2
Cumulative Number of Influenza-related Deaths This Season	58

Predominant Influenza Type or Subtype: N/A, too few positive specimens

* The 2018-2019 influenza season ended in MMWR week 2019-20, ending 5/18/19. Influenza will be monitored throughout the summer, but data will not be published until the fall.



Influenza Activity Estimates**



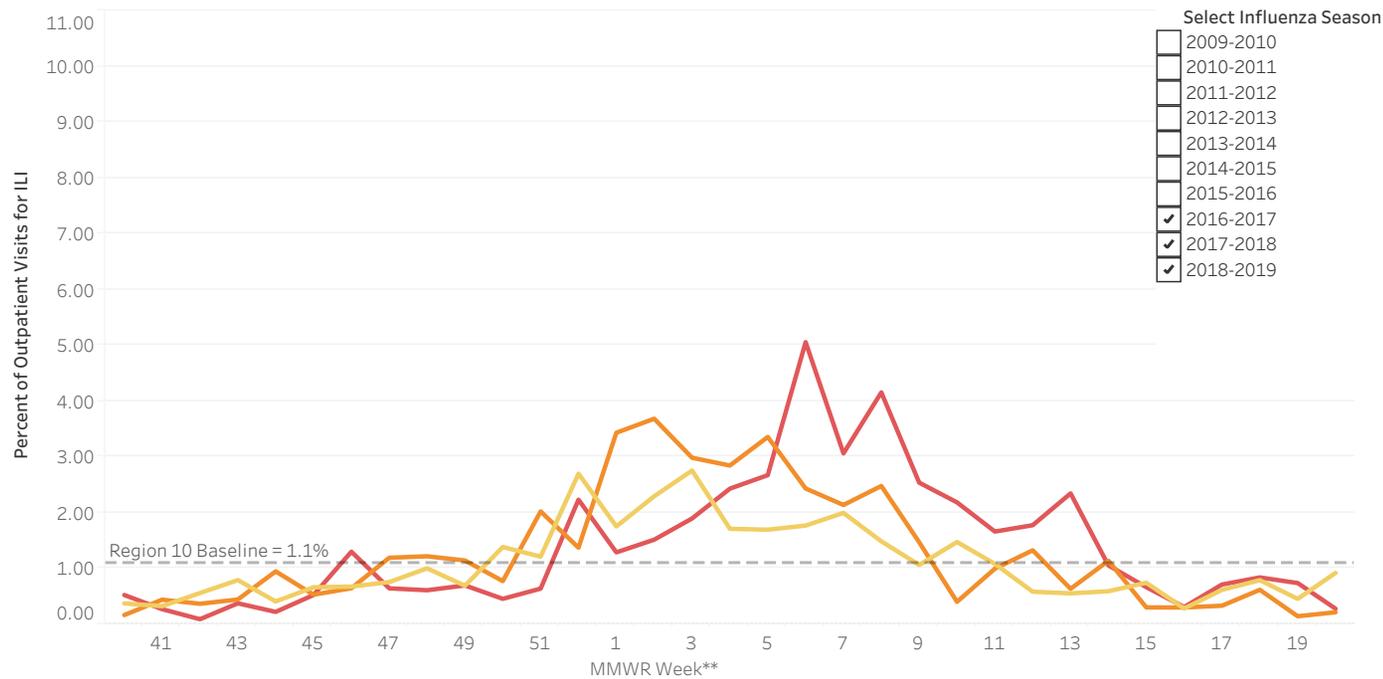
*** Influenza activity estimates attempt to give an overall visualization of how influenza is affecting different regions of Idaho. To estimate influenza activity weekly in each of the seven Idaho Public Health Districts, all five Idaho surveillance indicators are reviewed and scored if they exceed established thresholds. Activity estimates range from no activity (0/5 surveillance indicators above baseline) to very high activity (all 5/5 surveillance indicators above baseline). This estimate may not accurately represent influenza activity in all communities. For additional details see Surveillance Data Sources and Limitations.

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Percent of visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) reported by participants of the U.S. Outpatient ILI Surveillance Network by influenza season - Idaho*



* Data for the 2018-2019 influenza season are provisional and may change as additional reports are received.

** For MMWR week dates see <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/document/W2018-19.pdf>

Source: U.S. Outpatient ILI Surveillance Network (ILINet), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For additional details see Surveillance Data Sources and Limitations.

Legend: Influenza Season

- 2016-2017
- 2017-2018
- 2018-2019

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Current Week Summary

Outpatient Influenza-Like Illness (ILI)

Emergency Department ILI

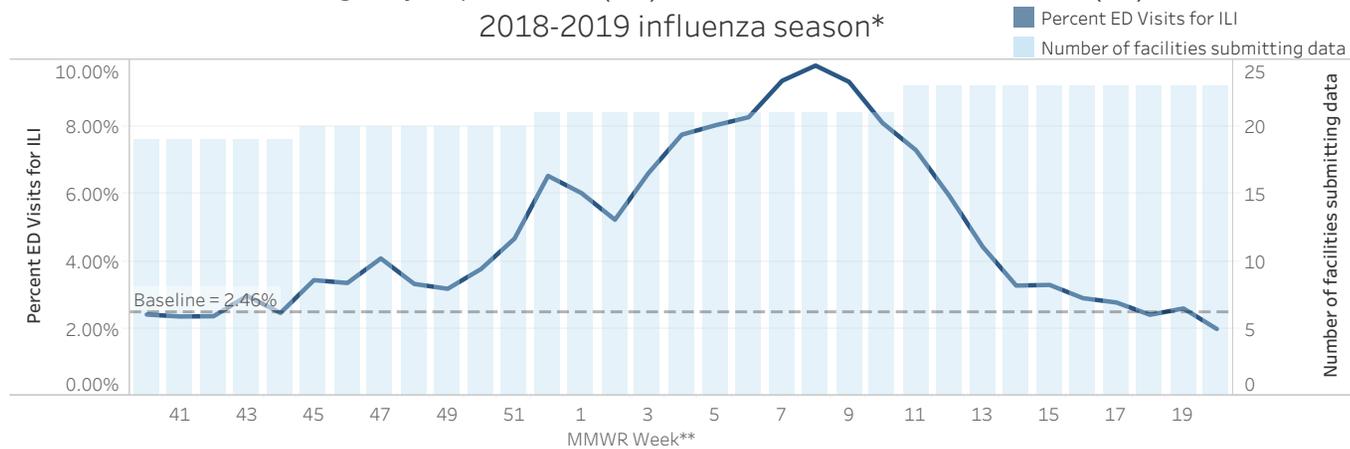
Influenza Type and Subtype

Influenza-related Mortality

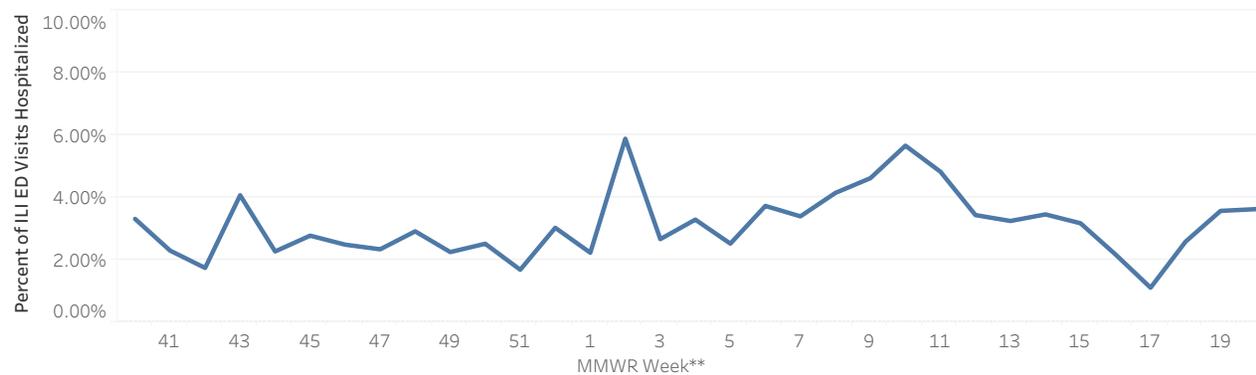
Surveillance Data Sources and Limitations

ISSP Technical Notes

Percent of emergency department (ED) visits for influenza-like illness (ILI) - Idaho
2018-2019 influenza season*



Percent emergency department (ED) visits for ILI that are hospitalized - Idaho
2018-2019 influenza season*



* Data are provisional and may change as additional reports are received.

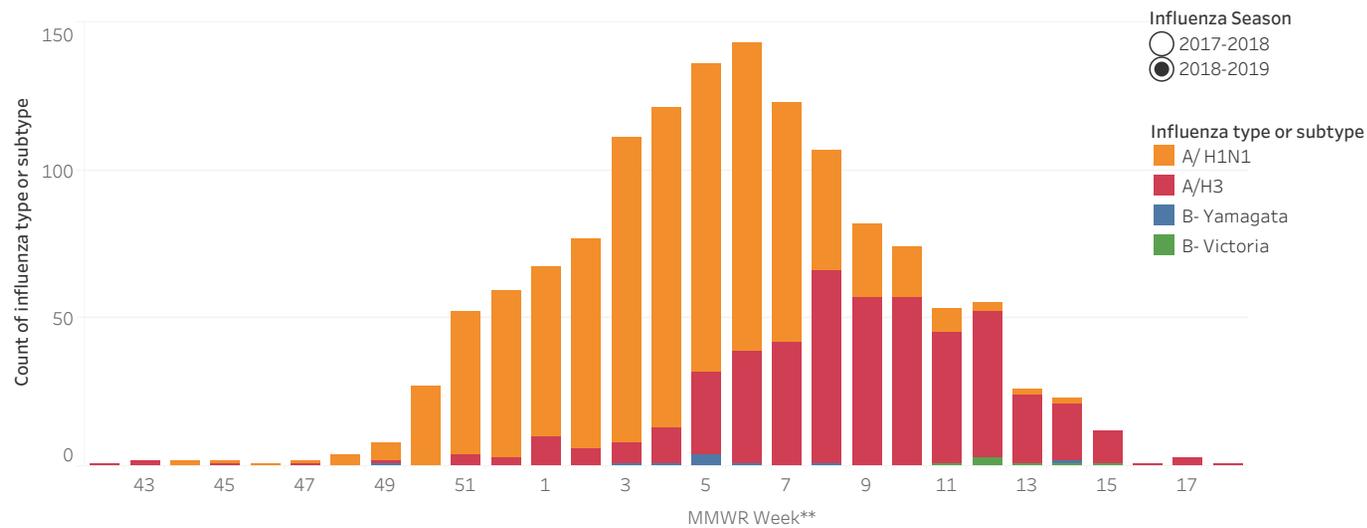
** For MMWR week dates see <https://www.cdc.gov/nndss/document/W2018-19.pdf>

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Influenza type and subtype identified by the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories (IBL) by week of specimen collection - Idaho, 2017-2018 and 2018-2019* influenza season



Number and percent of specimens tested for influenza by type and subtype at IBL - Idaho, 2018-2019 influenza season*

	Grand Total	A/H3	A/H1N1	B-Yamagata	B-Victoria	Negative
Weekly Total	0	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%
Season Total	1,590	486 30.6%	872 54.8%	10 0.6%	7 0.4%	215 13.5%

* Data for the 2018-2019 influenza season are provisional and may change as additional reports are received.

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Number of influenza-related deaths occurring in Idaho during the 2018-2019 influenza season by age group and Public Health District of residence*

Public Health District of Residence	Age Group (years)			Total Deaths
	≤ 18	19-49	≥ 50	
Public Health District 1	0	1	7	8
Public Health District 2	0	1	7	8
Public Health District 3	0	0	6	6
Public Health District 4	0	0	12	12
Public Health District 5	0	0	7	7
Public Health District 6	0	0	8	8
Public Health District 7	0	0	5	5
Non-resident	1	0	3	4
Total Deaths	1	2	55	58

* As of 5/18/19. Data for the 2018-2019 influenza season are provisional and may change as additional reports are received. Note public health district of residence is not always the same as county of death.

Source: Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics, Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. For additional details see Surveillance Data Sources and Limitations.

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Data Sources and Limitations

Individual seasonal influenza infections are not reportable to public health in Idaho. As a result, seasonal influenza surveillance in Idaho is a patchwork of voluntary surveillance by healthcare providers, healthcare systems, laboratories, and public health. Voluntary influenza surveillance tracks influenza spread, severity, and circulating strains in Idaho. Idaho monitors five surveillance indicators: outpatient influenza-like illness (ILI) visits, emergency department ILI visits, virologic surveillance, influenza-related mortality, and local Public Health District surveillance or outbreak reports. An overview of Influenza Surveillance in the U.S. can be found at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>. A description of MMWR week definitions and purpose can be found at https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/document/MMWR_Week_overview.pdf and <https://wwwn.cdc.gov/nndss/document/W2018-19.pdf>.

Influenza Activity Estimates

Influenza activity estimates attempt to give an overall visualization of how influenza is affecting different regions of Idaho. To estimate influenza activity weekly in each of the seven Idaho Public Health Districts, all five Idaho surveillance indicators are reviewed and scored if they exceed established thresholds. Activity estimates range from no activity (0/5 surveillance indicators above baseline) to very high activity (all 5/5 surveillance indicators above baseline). This estimate may not accurately represent influenza activity in all communities. A limitation to this method may be that influenza surveillance is voluntary and may be limited in some Idaho Public Health Districts.

Statewide Influenza Geographic Spread

State health departments, including Idaho, report estimated levels of geographic spread of influenza weekly to CDC based on a review of surveillance findings. Activity levels are described as either no activity, sporadic, local, regional, or widespread. Activity level definitions are at <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/overview.htm>. Activity levels rely on the number of geographic regions affected by the flu. Idaho's regions are defined as the borders of the seven Idaho Public Health Districts.

Outpatient ILI Surveillance

Data on outpatient visits to healthcare providers for influenza-like illness (ILI) are collected through the U.S. Outpatient ILI Surveillance Network (ILINet) website. In Idaho 12 ILINet sites from across the state contribute data weekly to ILINet. Weekly percent ILI is calculated from ILINet reports by dividing the total number of patients seen for any reason by the number of those patients specifically seen for ILI. A baseline for expected ILI visits outside the normal influenza season is updated each influenza season. For the 2018-2019 season, the region 10 baseline is 1.1%. Region 10 includes the following states: AK, ID, OR, and WA.

Emergency Department ILI Surveillance

The Idaho Syndromic Surveillance program (ISSP) works with Idaho hospitals to contribute emergency department (ED) visit data to the national BioSense platform, which houses analytic tools for tracking clinical syndromes. Syndromes are primarily defined using chief complaint text and discharge diagnosis codes. The current influenza-like illness (ILI) syndrome used by ISSP includes terms for fever, cough, sore throat, acute upper respiratory infection, unspecified viral infection, and influenza (see Technical Notes). This definition identifies more visits than those identified by the National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP) influenza-like-illness chief complaint text syndrome definition.

Limitations to ISSP data include:

- Data are not representative statewide because not all hospital EDs were submitting data when the system was queried; also, data on Idaho residents visiting non-Idaho facilities is not captured.
- Chief complaint is commonly submitted as a free text field, which could include misspellings or abbreviations, and could lack context to assist public health with interpretation of the reason for the visit (e.g., "feels unwell" without any symptoms listed); variability in documentation could result in miscategorization of visits - Because daily messages can update data associated with an earlier visit, (e.g., discharge diagnosis codes generally lag behind chief complaint data), the same syndrome query of the same visits might produce different results depending on when the data was queried.

Virologic Surveillance

Healthcare providers from across the state are encouraged to submit clinical respiratory specimens year-round to the Idaho Bureau of Laboratories (IBL) for influenza virus testing. Samples are collected from a subset of patients experiencing influenza-like illness (ILI), and are examined by IBL to determine the kind of influenza viruses circulating in Idaho. A subset of samples are forwarded by IBL to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for antigenic and genetic characterization; this data helps the CDC determine if the seasonal influenza vaccine is a good match for one or more of the viruses in circulation.

Influenza-related Mortality

Influenza-related deaths are reported by the Idaho Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics during the influenza season. Reviewing the number of deaths by age group and geographic region provides information on populations and areas most severely affected by seasonal influenza. Influenza-related mortality data reported here details deaths occurring in Idaho among Idaho residents and non-residents, by public health district of residence. Deaths in Idaho residents occurring while out-of-state are not shown here. Data shown here may differ from statistics published in annual Idaho Vital Record reports. Deaths are considered influenza-related based on ICD coding for Influenza in Part I or Part II on the death certificate. Influenza may have been the underlying cause of death or contributed to death.

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ISSP Technical Notes

[Idaho Syndromic Surveillance Program influenza-like illness syndrome definition](#)

The following definition is the chief complaint and discharge diagnoses (CCANDDD) syndrome definition used to identify visits related to influenza-like-illness for this report. Diagnosis codes follow ICD-10-CM convention and include variations in the form of notation (e.g., inclusion of decimal in diagnostic codes). Therefore, the definition includes diagnosis codes that follow notation conventions of facilities submitting data. This definition identifies visits in addition to those identified by the National Syndromic Surveillance Program (NSSP, <https://www.cdc.gov/nssp/biosense>) influenza-like-illness chief complaint text syndrome definition (SYNDROME="ILI").

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(^;ILI^,OR,(^r50.9^,AND,(^r05^,OR,^J02.9^,OR,^j06.9^,OR,^b34.9^,OR,^J18.9^,OR,^J20.9^,)),OR,(^r509^,AND,(^r05^,OR,^J029^,OR,^j069^,OR,^b349^,OR,^J189^,OR,^J209^,)),OR,(^r05^,AND,(^B349^,OR,^j029^,)),OR,(^r05^,AND,(^B34.9^,OR,^j02.9^,)),OR,(^j06.9^,AND,(^B34.9^,OR,^j02.9^,OR,^j20.9^,)),OR,(^j069^,AND,(^B349^,OR,^j029^,OR,^j209^,)),OR,^j101^,OR,^j10.1^,OR,^J05.0^,OR,^J050^,OR,^J02.0^,OR,^J020^,))
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